



# **Integrated Science Assessment for Particulate Matter (External Review Draft)**

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## NCEA/ORD and OAQPS/OAR Interactions: NAAQS Review

NCEA/ORD	NAAQS Activity	OAQPS/OAR
Co-lead development of workshop	Workshop on science-policy issues (ORD/OAR)	Co-lead development of workshop
Author – Chapter on ISA	Integrated Review Plan (ORD/OAR)	Author of other chapters (e.g., REA, PA)
<u>Lead development</u>	Integrated Science Assessment (ORD)	Review draft materials with focus on identifying areas where clarification is needed
Review draft materials and provide comments on interpretation of science	Risk/Exposure Assessment (OAR)	<u>Lead development</u>
Review draft materials and provide comments on interpretation of science	Policy Assessment (OAR)	<u>Lead development</u>
Provide technical and scientific support	Rule-making materials (OAR)	<u>Lead development</u>

# Scope of PM ISA

- **Scope:** The ISA is tasked with answering the question “Is there an independent effect of PM on health and welfare at relevant ambient concentrations?”

- Health Effects

- Studies will be considered if they include a composite measure of PM (e.g., PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass, PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> mass, ultrafine particle (UFP) number)
- Studies of source-based exposures that contain PM (e.g., diesel exhaust, wood smoke, etc.) if they have a composite measure of PM and examine effects with and without particle trap to assess the particle effect
- Studies of components of PM if they include a composite measure of PM to relate toxicity of component(s) to current indicator
- Studies will be considered if PM exposures are relevant to ambient concentrations (< 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; 1 to 2 orders of magnitude above ambient concentrations)

## Scope of PM ISA (cont.)

### — Welfare Effects

- Focus is on non-ecological welfare effects
  - Visibility Impairment
  - Climate Effects
  - Materials Effects
- Ecological effects resulting from the deposition of PM and PM components are being considered as part of the review of the secondary (welfare-based) NAAQS for oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulfur and PM

# PM ISA: Overall Observations

- Systematic Review of PM Literature Base

- Initial search identified ~310,000; ~5,100 read past the title with 2,655 cited in the ISA

- PM<sub>2.5</sub>

- Expansive body of literature supports and extends the conclusions of 2009 PM ISA

- More extensive evaluation of some “newer” health effects (nervous system and metabolic)

- Extensive analyses across health effects continues to support linear, no-threshold concentration-response (C-R) relationship

- Effects observed at long-term average concentrations below the current annual standard

- PM<sub>10-2.5</sub>

- Relatively fewer studies examine health effects due to PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> exposures

- Uncertainties still remain with respect to differences in methods used in epidemiology studies for estimation of PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> concentrations across studies

- Ultrafine Particles (UFP)

- Variability in size distribution and exposure metric examined across studies

- Majority of epidemiologic studies conducted outside U.S., most relying on 1 monitor

- Lack of U.S. monitoring network and limited data on spatial and temporal UFP concentrations, particularly in the U.S.

# Contents of the Draft PM ISA

Preface: Legislative Requirements of the PM NAAQS, Purpose and Overview of the ISA, Process for Developing ISA

Executive Summary

Chapter 1. Integrated Synthesis

Chapter 2. Sources, Atmospheric Chemistry, and Ambient Concentrations

Chapter 3. Exposure to Ambient PM

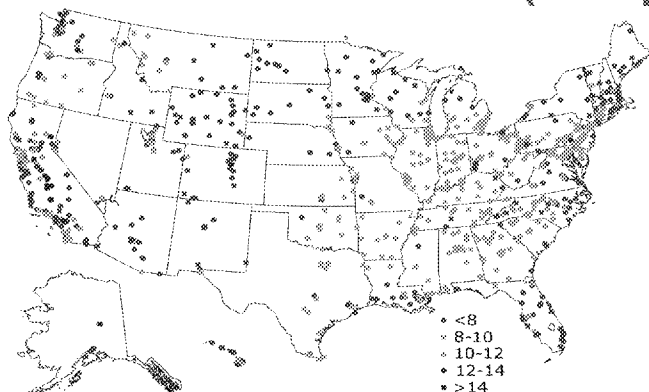
Chapter 4. Dosimetry of PM

Chapters 5 - 11. Respiratory Effects, Cardiovascular Effects, Metabolic Effects, Nervous System Effects, Reproductive and Developmental Effects, Cancer, and Mortality

Chapter 12. Lifestages and Populations Potentially at Increased Risk of a PM-related Health Effect

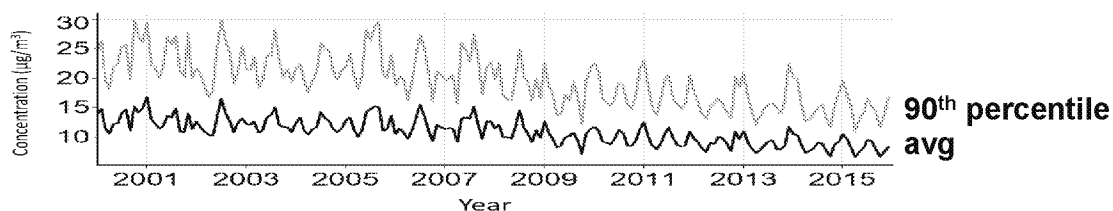
Chapter 13. Welfare Effects

## PM<sub>2.5</sub> Concentrations and Trends (Chapter 2)



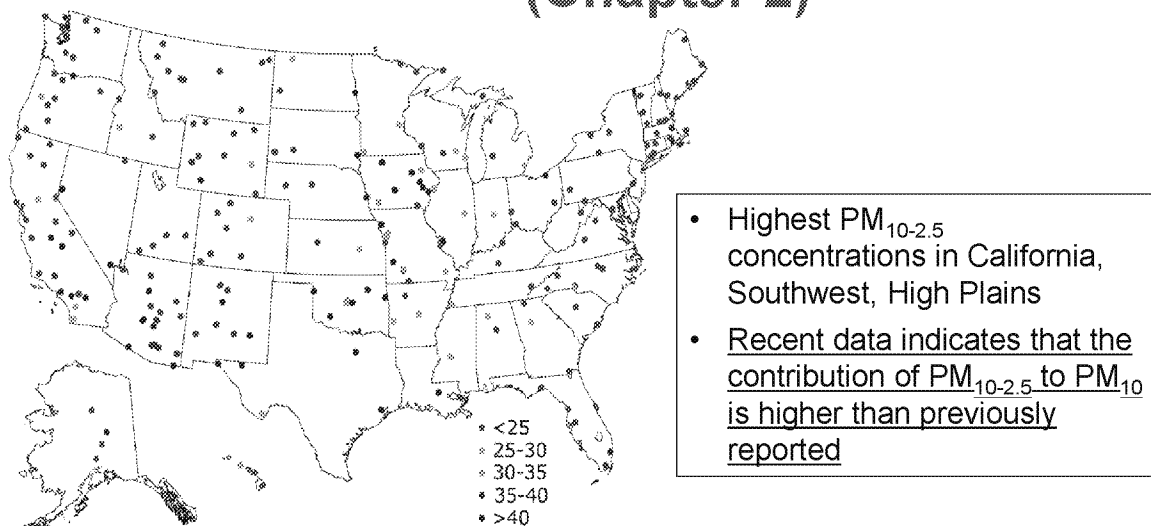
- Highest average and 98<sup>th</sup> percentile in California
- Steady declining trend from 2000 to 2015
- Summer no longer has the highest PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations nationally
- Annual average decreased from 12  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to 8.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  from 2006 to 2014

**Figure 2-13. Three-year average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations 2013–2015 ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )**



**Figure 2-22. Long-term trend in national monthly and annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) from 2000–2015**

## PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> Concentrations and Trends (Chapter 2)



**Figure 2-16. 98<sup>th</sup> percentile concentrations PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> concentrations 2013–2015 (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)**



## UFP Concentrations and Trends (Chapter 2)

- Ultrafine particles are generally considered to be PM with a diameter less than or equal to 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  (100 nm)
- Uncertainties:
  - Highly variable concentration in space and over time due to physical and chemical processing in the atmosphere
    - UFP concentrations are highest in urban areas and during rush hour, and are highly episodic during winter
  - UFP measured using multiple methods, varying in the size ranges examined - some capturing multiple size ranges below 100 nm, while others can include sizes above 100 nm
- Number of U.S. sites with routine monitoring of UFP has increased from 3 in 2015 to 23 in 2018

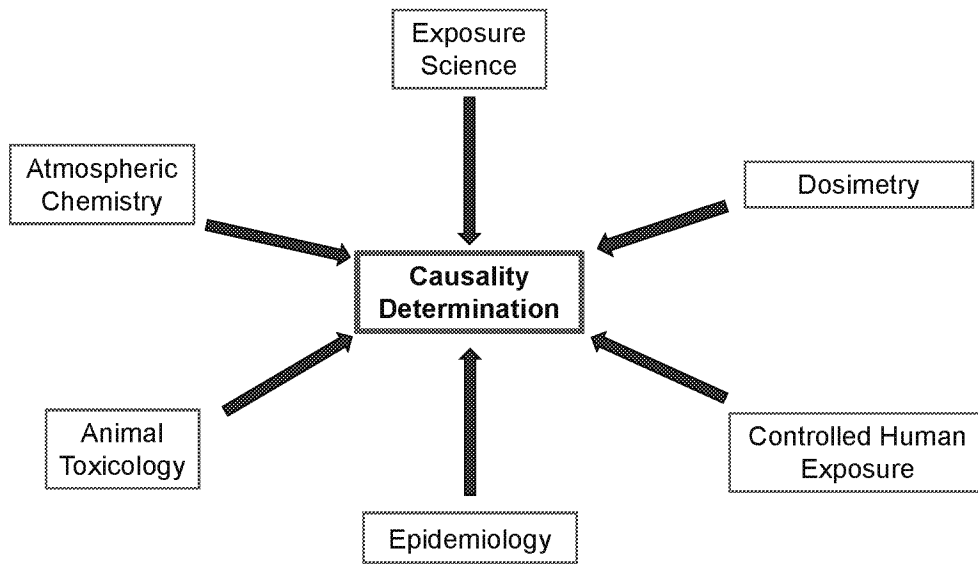
## Exposure to PM (Chapter 3)

Method	Epidemiologic Application		Potential Errors and Uncertainties
	Short-term	Long-term	
Fixed-site monitors	X		Correlation between exposure and measurement decreases with increasing distance from the monitor, especially for PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> and UFP
		X	Errors in PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> concentrations related to different flow rates used in PM <sub>10</sub> and PM <sub>2.5</sub> monitors for the differencing methods Errors in PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> concentrations due to differences in locations of PM <sub>10</sub> and PM <sub>2.5</sub> monitors when the instruments are not collocated Exposure misclassification if the monitor site does not correspond to the exposed population
Land-use regression and spatio-temporal models		X	Exposure misclassification if grid is not finely resolved Bias if the model is misspecified or applied to a location different from where the model was fit
Chemical transport model		X	Bias when grid cells are too large to capture spatial variability of ambient PM exposures, especially for PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> Bias in PM mass concentration and PM components related to underestimation of BC and OC
Satellite-based methods		X	Bias when grid cells are too large to capture spatial variability of ambient PM exposures, especially for PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>
Hybrid models		X	Bias when grid cells are too large to capture spatial variability of ambient PM exposures, especially for PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> Bias in PM mass concentration and PM components related to underestimation of BC and OC, reduced by monitor and/or satellite data

## Dosimetry of PM (Chapter 4)

- New information in this review:
  - Demonstrates that children inhale less through the nose and have lower nasal deposition efficiency than adults resulting in increased exposure of the lungs to inhaled PM
  - Shows the translocation of a small fraction of particles ( $\leq 0.2 \mu\text{m}$ ) out of the respiratory tract from the:
    - Olfactory mucosa to the brain
    - Alveolar region of the lung into blood
  - Indicates that  $\text{PM}_{10}$  overestimates the size of particles likely to enter the human lung

## Evidence Base that Informs Health-Based Causality Determinations



# Draft PM ISA

## Health Effects: Causality Determinations

HUMAN HEALTH EFFECTS					
ISA			Current PM Draft ISA		
Indicator			PM <sub>2.5</sub>	PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	UFP
Health Outcome	Mortality	Short-term exposure		*	
		Long-term exposure		*	
	Respiratory	Short-term exposure			
		Long-term exposure			
	Cardiovascular	Short-term exposure			
		Long-term exposure		*	
	Metabolic	Short-term exposure	*	*	*
		Long-term exposure	*	*	*
	Reproductive	Male/Female Reproduction and Fertility			
		Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes			
	Cancer	Long-term exposure	*	*	
	Central nervous system	Short-term exposure	*		*
		Long-term exposure	*	*	*

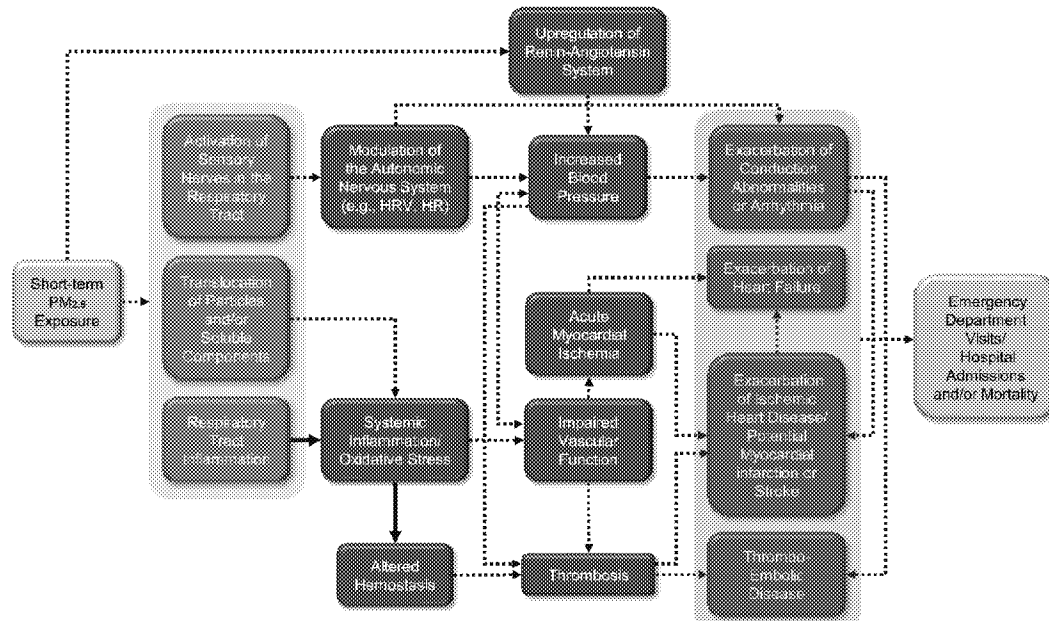
Causal
  Likely causal
  Suggestive
  Inadequate

\* = new determination or change in causality determination from 2009 PM ISA

## Example: Organizational Structure of Health Effects Chapters

- Text Box: Overview of causality determinations
- Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure
  - Biological plausibility discussion and figure
  - Evaluation of the health effects evidence by broad health effects (e.g., myocardial infarction, asthma)
  - Evaluation of components and sources evidence
  - Summary and Causality determination
- Long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure
  - Biological plausibility discussion and figure
  - Evaluation of the health effects evidence by broad health effects (e.g., myocardial infarction, asthma)
  - Evaluation of components and sources evidence
  - Summary and Causality determination
- Similar structure for PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> and ultrafine particle (UFP) sections

### Example: Potential Biological Pathways Figure



Note: The boxes above represent the effects for which there is experimental or epidemiologic evidence, and the dotted arrows indicate a proposed relationship between those effects. Solid arrows denote direct evidence of the relationship as provided, for example, by an inhibitor of the pathway or a genetic knock-out model used in an experimental study. Shading around multiple boxes denotes relationships between groups of upstream and downstream effects. Progression of effects is depicted from left to right and color-coded (gray, exposure; green, initial event; blue, intermediate event; orange, apical event). Here, apical events generally reflect results of epidemiologic studies, which often observe effects at the population level. Epidemiologic evidence may also contribute to upstream boxes. When there are gaps in the evidence, there are complementary gaps in the figure.

## Respiratory Effects (Chapter 5)

***Recent evidence supports the conclusions of the 2009 PM ISA, and continues to support a likely to be causal relationship between short- and long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and respiratory effects***

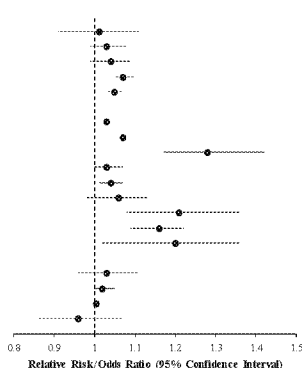
- Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Likely to be Causal)
  - Epidemiologic evidence: consistent evidence for asthma exacerbation in children and COPD exacerbation in adults, as well as respiratory mortality.
    - Recent studies examining potential copollutant confounding provide evidence supporting an independent PM<sub>2.5</sub> effect, particularly for asthma exacerbation and respiratory mortality
  - Experimental evidence: worsening of allergic airways disease and/or subclinical effects related to COPD, provide biological plausibility for asthma and COPD exacerbations
- Long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Likely to be Causal)
  - Epidemiologic evidence: consistent changes in lung function and lung function growth rate, increased asthma incidence, asthma prevalence and wheeze in children; acceleration of lung function decline in adults; and respiratory mortality
    - Independent PM<sub>2.5</sub> effect supported by examination of potential copollutant confounding, particularly studies of lung function growth and respiratory mortality; improvements in lung function growth with declining PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations
  - Experimental evidence: impaired lung development and development of allergic airways disease, biological plausibility for decrements in lung function growth in children and asthma development



# Respiratory Effects (Chapter 5)

## Example: Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure and Asthma

Study	Location	Age	Lag
Slaughter et al. (2005)	Spokane, WA	All ages	1
Wang et al. (2012)	St. Louis, MO	All ages	0-4 DL
TSilverman et al. (2010)	New York, NY	All ages	0-1a
		All ages	0-1b
Zhan et al. (2017)	Dongguan, China	All ages	0-1
Yap et al. (2013)	Central Valley, CA	1-9	0-2
	South Coast, CA	1-9	0-2
Chen et al. (2016)	Adelaide, Australia	0-17	0-4
Li et al. (2011)	Detroit, MI	2-18a	0-4
		2-18b	
Wang et al. (2012)	St. Louis, MO	2-18	0-4 DL
TSilverman et al. (2010)	New York, NY	6-18	0-1a
		6-18	0-1b
Sekander et al. (2012)	Copenhagen, Denmark	6-18	0-4
TSilverman et al. (2010)	New York, NY	50+	0-1a
			0-1b
Beil et al. (2015)	70 U.S. counties	65+	1
Wang et al. (2012)	St. Louis, MO	65+	0-4 DL



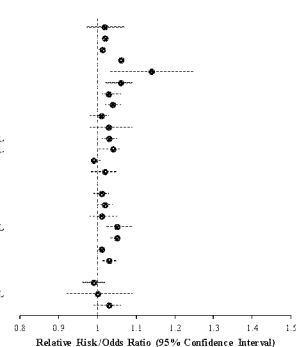
### Hospital Admissions

Red = recent studies;  
Black = U.S. study evaluated in the  
2009 PM ISA

### Emergency Department Visits

Red = recent studies;  
Black = U.S. and Canadian studies  
evaluated in the 2009 PM ISA

Study	Location	Age	Lag
Shah et al. (2009)	7 Canadian cities	All	0
McGugan et al. (2015)	71 CA counties	All	0
Castro et al. (2018)	S CA metro areas	All	0
Wacholder et al. (2016)	Ontario, Canada	All	0-2
Paulo et al. (2008)	Mass	All	0-1
ATSDR (2006)	Manhattan, NY	All	0-4
	Bronx, NY	All	0-4
Ho et al. (2007)	New York, NY	All	0-1
Paul et al. (2005)	Atlanta, GA	All	0-2
Slaughter et al. (2005)	Spokane, WA	All	1
Wang et al. (2012)	St. Louis, MO	All	0-4 DL
Sand et al. (2015)	St. Louis, MO	All	0-2 DL
Byrnes et al. (2015)	Indianapolis, IN	All	0-2
Kim et al. (2015)	Seoul, South Korea	All	0-2
Glasson et al. (2014)	New Jersey	3-17	0-2
Strickland et al. (2015)	Atlanta, GA	5-17	0-2
Byers et al. (2015)	Indianapolis, IN	5-17	0-2
Wang et al. (2012)	St. Louis, MO	2-18	0-4 DL
Xiao et al. (2018)	Georgia	2-18	0-2
Rundland et al. (2016)	Georgia	2-18	0
Albaladejo et al. (2015)	3 U.S. cities	5-18	0-2
Byers et al. (2015)	Indianapolis, IN	45+	0-2
Wang et al. (2012)	St. Louis, MO	65+	0-4 DL
Albaladejo et al. (2015)	3 U.S. cities	65+	0-2



## Cardiovascular Effects (Chapter 6)

***A large body of recent evidence supports and extends the conclusions of the 2009 PM ISA that there is a causal relationship between short- and long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and cardiovascular effects***

- **Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Causal)**

- Epidemiologic evidence: generally consistent positive associations for hospital admissions and ED visits, particularly for ischemic heart disease (IHD) and heart failure (HF), as well as cardiovascular mortality
- Experimental evidence: endothelial dysfunction, effects indicating impaired cardiac function, arrhythmia, changes in heart rate variability (HRV), increases in blood pressure (BP), and indicators of systemic inflammation, oxidative stress, and coagulation

- **Long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Causal)**

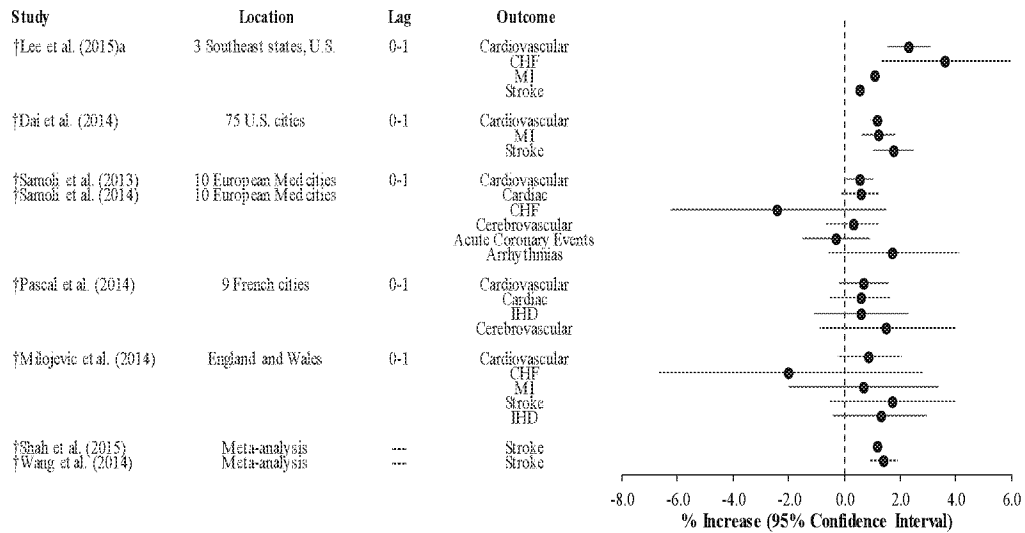
- Epidemiologic evidence: consistent positive associations for cardiovascular mortality; evidence for coronary heart disease (CHD) and stroke particularly in populations with pre-existing disease; evidence for coronary artery calcification (CAC)
  - Cardiovascular mortality studies inform potential copollutant confounding, and linear, no-threshold concentration-response relationship

17

- Experimental evidence: impaired heart function, increased blood pressure, endothelial dysfunction, and atherosclerotic plaque progression

# Cardiovascular Effects (Chapter 6)

## Example: Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure and Cardiovascular-related Mortality



**Figure 6-7. Percent increase in cause-specific cardiovascular mortality outcomes for a 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> increase in 24-hour average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations observed in multicity studies and meta-analyses.**

# Nervous System Effects (Chapter 8)

- **Long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Likely to be Causal – NEW conclusion)**

- Epidemiologic evidence

- Consistent evidence for cognitive decline/impairment and decreased brain volume; more limited evidence for Alzheimer's disease and dementia
    - Lack of examination of potential copollutant confounding

- Experimental evidence

- Consistent evidence for inflammation, oxidative stress, morphologic changes, and neurodegeneration in multiple brain regions of adult animals
    - Limited evidence for early indicators of Alzheimer's disease, impaired learning/memory, altered behavior in adult animals, and morphologic changes during development
    - Evidence supports biological plausibility for cognitive decrements and dementia, and independent PM<sub>2.5</sub> effect

- **Long-term UFP Exposure (Likely to be Causal – NEW conclusion)**

- Epidemiologic evidence

- Limited evidence for effects on cognitive development in children

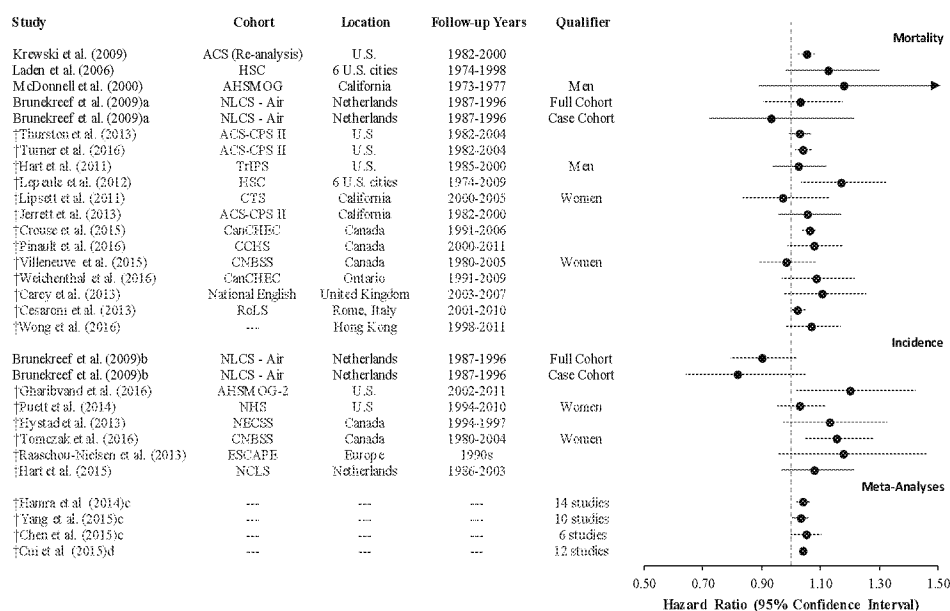
- Experimental evidence

- Consistent evidence for inflammation, oxidative stress, and neurodegeneration in adult animals
    - Limited evidence of Alzheimer's disease pathology in a susceptible animal model
    - Strong evidence, mainly from one laboratory, for inflammation, morphologic changes including persistent ventriculomegaly, and behavioral effects following pre/postnatal exposure

## Cancer (Chapter 10)

- Long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Likely to be Causal – NEW conclusion)
  - Recent epidemiologic studies greatly expand upon the limited number of studies in the 2009 PM ISA that examined lung cancer incidence and mortality
    - Primarily positive associations, supported by analyses focusing on never smokers
  - Experimental and epidemiologic studies provide evidence for a relationship between PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and genotoxicity, epigenetic effects, and carcinogenic potential.
  - PM<sub>2.5</sub> exhibits several characteristics of carcinogens providing biological plausibility for PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure contributing to cancer development

# Cancer (Chapter 10)

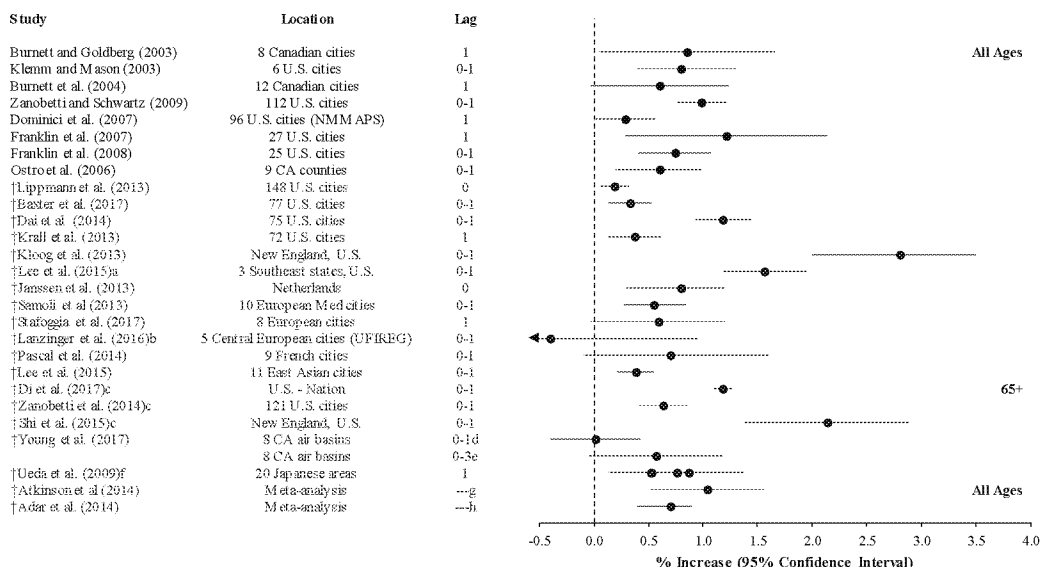


Note: Red = recent studies; Black = studies evaluated in the 2009 PM ISA

**Figure 10-3. Summary of associations reported in previous and recent cohort studies that examined long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and lung cancer mortality and incidence.**

## Mortality – Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Chapter 11) (Causal)

**Recent evidence supports and extends the conclusions of the 2009 PM ISA that there is a causal relationship between short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and mortality**



Note: Red = recent multi-city studies; Black = multi-city studies evaluated in the 2009 PM ISA

**Figure 11-1. Summary of associations between short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and total (nonaccidental) mortality in multicity studies for a 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> increase in 24-hour average concentrations.**

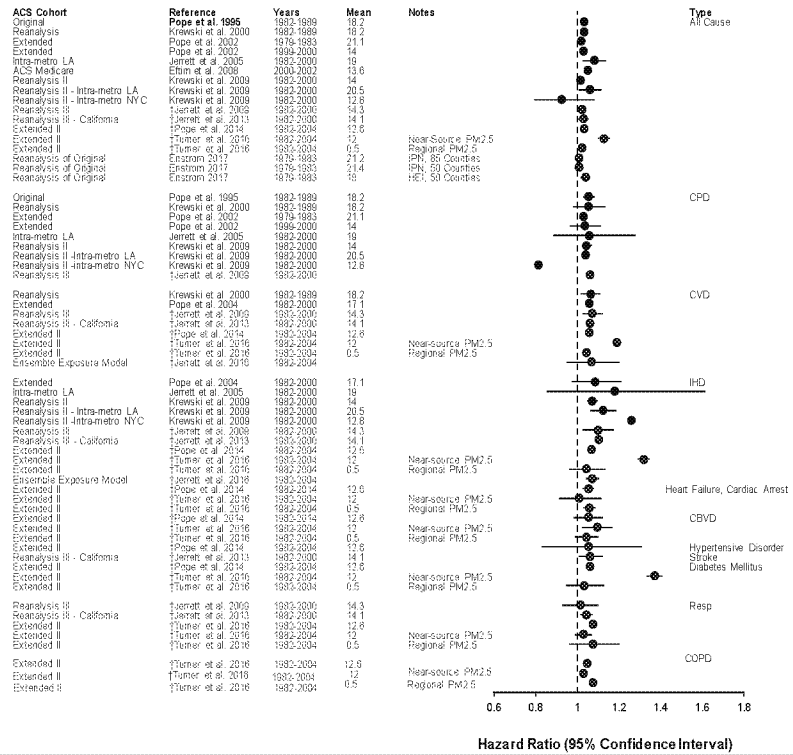
## Mortality – Long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure (Chapter 11) (Causal)

**Recent evidence supports and extends the conclusions of the 2009 PM ISA that there is a causal relationship between long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and mortality**

**Figure 11-17.**  
**Associations**  
**between long-term**  
**exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub>**  
**and total**  
**(nonaccidental)**  
**mortality in the**  
**American Cancer**  
**Society (ACS)**  
**cohort.**

Note: Associations are presented per 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> increase in pollutant concentration.

Red = recent studies;  
Black = studies evaluated in the  
2009 PM ISA

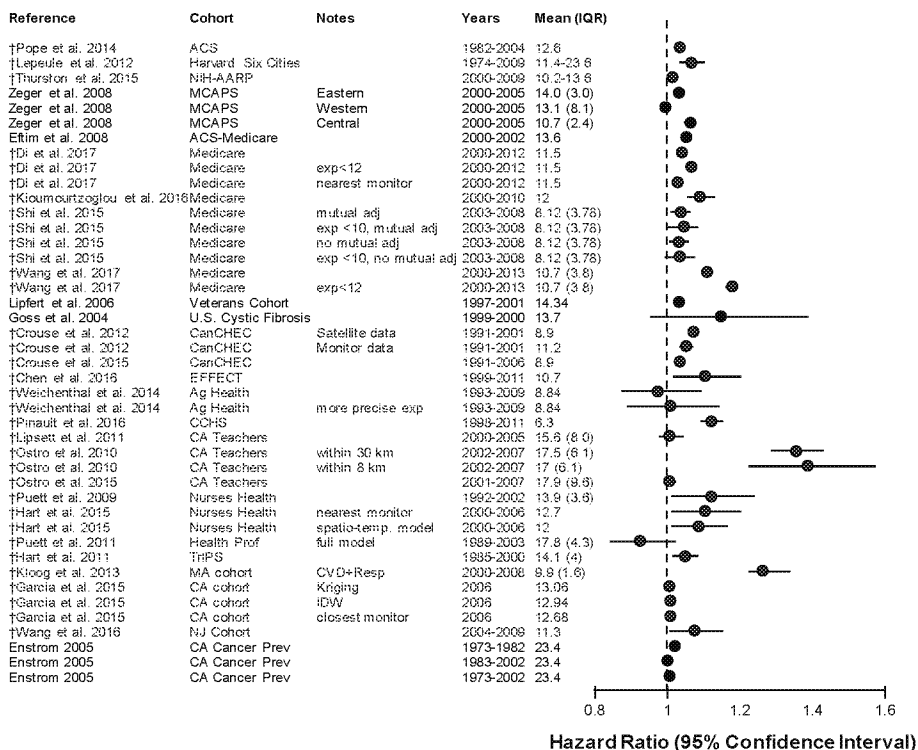




**Figure 11-18.**  
**Associations**  
**between long-term**  
**PM<sub>2.5</sub> and total**  
**(nonaccidental)**  
**mortality in recent**  
**North American**  
**cohorts.**

Note: Associations are presented per 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> increase in pollutant concentration.

Red = recent studies;  
Black = studies evaluated in the 2009 PM ISA



## Policy-Relevant Considerations: Potential Copollutant Confounding

***Across recent studies examining various health effects and both short- and long-term  $PM_{2.5}$  exposures, associations remain relatively unchanged in copollutant models***

- In the 2009 PM ISA an overall limitation of the epidemiologic evidence spanning health effects was the rather limited assessment of potential copollutant confounding
- Recent epidemiologic studies greatly expand upon this limitation by conducting copollutant analyses with gaseous as well as other particle size fractions (i.e.,  $PM_{10-2.5}$ )

## Policy-Relevant Considerations: PM Components and Sources

***Many  $PM_{2.5}$  components and sources are associated with many health effects, and the evidence does not indicate that any one source or component is more strongly related with health effects than  $PM_{2.5}$  mass***

- Evaluation of PM components focused on studies that examined both PM components and a composite metric of PM
  - Most studies in the current literature focus on  $PM_{2.5}$  components
- Evaluation of PM sources focused on studies that used statistical approaches to attribute specific  $PM_{2.5}$  components to sources
- Across the evidence spanning health categories (e.g., cardiovascular effects, mortality) and various health effects (e.g., hospital admissions, heart function) concluded:

## Policy-Relevant Considerations: Concentration-Response (C-R)

### ***Across studies evidence continues to support a linear, no-threshold C-R relationship***

- The 2009 PM ISA concluded that epidemiologic evidence indicated a linear, no threshold, relationship between short- and long-term PM exposure and health effects
  - Majority of studies focused on PM<sub>10</sub>
- Recent epidemiologic studies examine C-R relationship in epidemiologic studies of short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and respiratory hospital admissions and emergency department visits, long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and cardiovascular effects (e.g., hypertension), and short- and long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and mortality
  - Additionally, recent studies examining long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and mortality provide initial evidence of a supralinear C-R relationship at lower concentrations

## Policy-Relevant Considerations: Populations Potentially at Increased Risk of a PM-related Health Effect (Chapter 12)

- The NAAQS are intended to protect both the population as a whole and those potentially at increased risk for health effects in response to exposure to criteria air pollutants
  - *Are there specific populations and lifestyles at increased risk of a PM-related health effect, compared to a reference population?*
- The ISA identified and evaluated evidence for factors that may increase the risk of PM<sub>2.5</sub>-related health effects in a population or lifestyle, classifying the evidence into four categories:
  - Adequate evidence; suggestive evidence; inadequate evidence; evidence of no effect
- Conclusions:
  - Adequate: children and nonwhite populations
  - Suggestive: pre-existing cardiovascular and respiratory disease, overweight/obese, genetic variants glutathione pathways, low SES
  - Inadequate: pre-existing diabetes, older adults, residential location, sex, diet, and physical activity

## Welfare Effects: Causality Determinations

### Chapter 13. Welfare Effects

	<u>2009 PM ISA</u>	<u>Current PM ISA</u>
<b>Visibility</b>	Causal	Causal
<b>Climate Effects</b>	Causal	Causal
<b>Materials Effects</b>	Causal	Causal

Reminder: Ecological effects resulting from the deposition of PM and PM components are being considered as part of the review of the secondary (welfare-based) NAAQS for oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulfur and PM

## Welfare Effects (Chapter 13)

***Recent evidence supports and extends the conclusions of the 2009 PM ISA that there is a causal relationship between PM and welfare effects***

- **Visibility Impairment (Causal)**

- Long-term visibility improvements throughout the U.S as PM concentrations have decreased
- Regional and seasonal patterns in atmospheric visibility parallel PM concentration patterns
- More evidence supporting the relationship between visibility and PM composition

- **Climate Effects (Causal)**

- New evidence provides greater specificity about radiative forcing
- Increased understanding of additional climate impacts driven by PM radiative effects
- Improved characterization of key sources of uncertainty particularly with response to PM-cloud interactions

- **Materials Effects (Causal)**

- New information for glass and metals including modeling of glass soiling
- Progress in the development of quantitative dose-response relationships and damage functions for materials in addition to stone, including glass and metals
- Quantitative research on PM impacts on energy yield from photovoltaic systems

# Next Steps for the PM ISA

**Awaiting OAR reaction to additional ISA text**

**Release draft ISA**

**October ASAP, 2018**

**Release FRN for public comment**

**October ASAP**

**CASAC In Place**

**Need to finalize ASAP**

**CASAC Review meeting**

**December 12-13, 2018 (tentative)**

**Public comment opportunity on draft ISA**

**Until December 12-13, 2018**

**Revise ISA in response to comments**

**Winter – Summer 2019**

**Release Final ISA**

**December 2019**



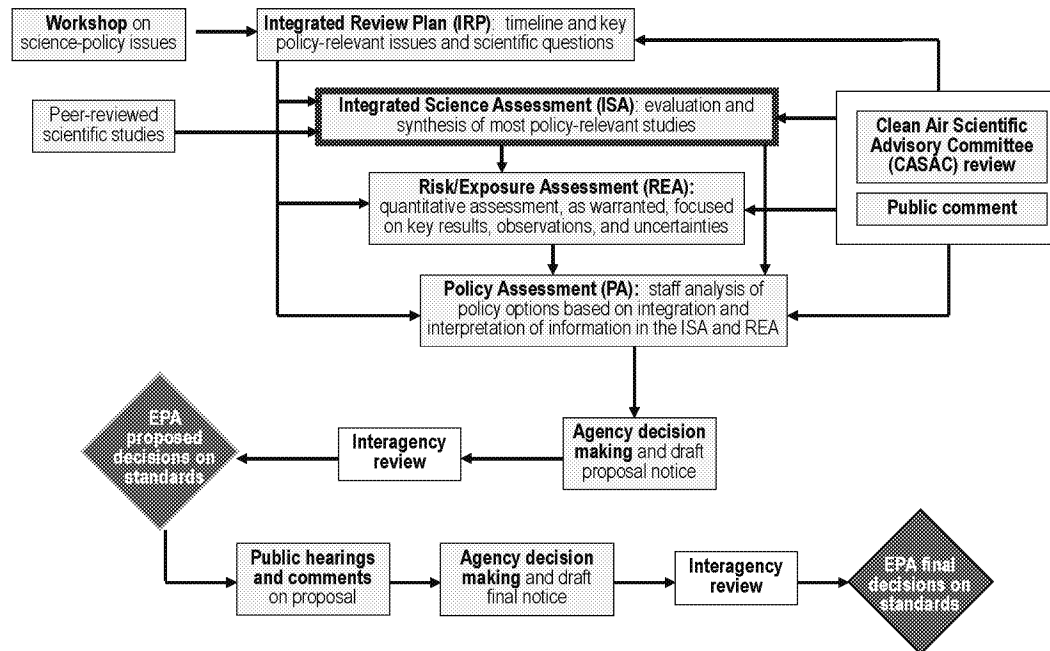
## Supplemental Materials

# ISA Schedules

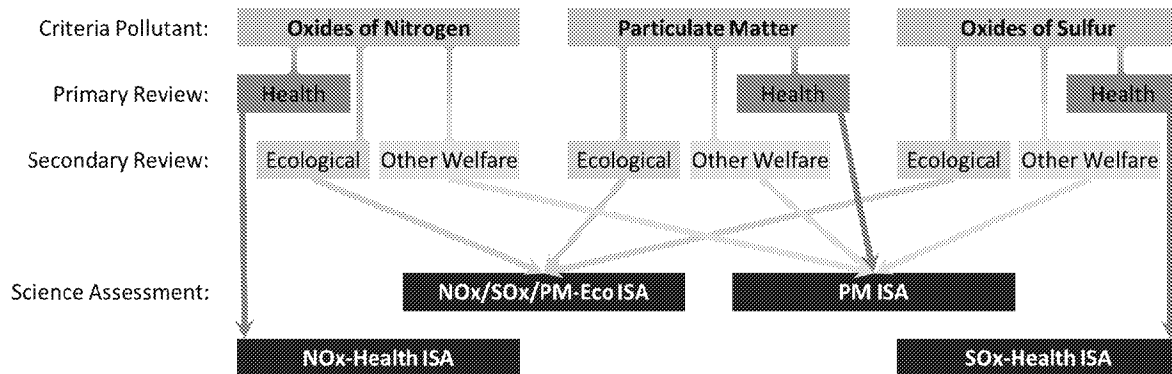
13

Week of...	02/28/15-3/5	03/15-03/22	03/29-04/5
June 25			
July 2			
July 9			
July 16			
July 23			
July 30			
August 6			
August 13			
August 20			
August 27			
September 3			
September 10			
September 17			
September 24			
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August 5			
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August 19			
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September 23			
September 30			
October 7			
October 14			
October 21			
October 28			
November 4			
November 11			
November 18			
November 25			
December 2			
December 9			
December 16			
December 23			
December 30			
January 6			
January 13			
January 20			
January 27			
February 3			
February 10			
February 17			
February 24			
March 3			
March 10			
March 17			
March 24			

# Overview of the NAAQS Review Process



## Relationship among Integrated Science Assessments



Notes: Primary (health-based) review of effects on public health = **Health**  
 Secondary (welfare-based) review of effects on public welfare = **Ecological + Other Welfare**  
 Ecological = effects on soil, water, crops, vegetation, animals, wildlife  
 Other Welfare = effects on manmade materials, weather, visibility, climate

# Framework for Causality Determinations

- Consistent and transparent basis to evaluate the likelihood of a causal relationship between air pollution and health or welfare effects
- Based on evaluation and synthesis of evidence from across scientific disciplines (e.g., controlled human exposure, epidemiologic, and toxicological studies)
- Weight-of-evidence approach
  - Causal relationship
  - Likely to be a causal relationship
  - Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer, a causal relationship
  - Inadequate to infer the presence or absence of a causal relationship
  - Not likely to be a causal relationship
- ISA Preamble describes this framework
  - Stand-alone document, input from CASAC
- Multiple CASAC panels support the use of this framework in ISAs

# Current Framework for Causality Determinations

<b>Causal relationship</b>	Evidence is sufficient to conclude that there is a causal relationship with relevant pollutant exposures (e.g., doses or exposures generally within one to two orders of magnitude of current levels). That is, the pollutant has been shown to result in health effects in studies in which chance, confounding, and other biases could be ruled out with reasonable confidence. For example: (1) controlled human exposure studies that demonstrate consistent effects; or (2) observational studies that cannot be explained by plausible alternatives or that are supported by other lines of evidence (e.g., animal studies or mode of action information). Generally, the determination is based on multiple high-quality studies conducted by multiple research groups.	Multiple, high-quality studies Rule out chance, confounding, and other biases with reasonable confidence
<b>Likely to be a causal relationship</b>	Evidence is sufficient to conclude that a causal relationship is likely to exist with relevant pollutant exposures. That is, the pollutant has been shown to result in health effects in studies where results are not explained by chance, confounding, and other biases, but uncertainties remain in the evidence overall. For example: (1) observational studies show an association, but copollutant exposures are difficult to address and/or other lines of evidence (controlled human exposure, animal, or mode of action information) are limited or inconsistent; or (2) animal toxicological evidence from multiple studies from different laboratories demonstrate effects, but limited or no human data are available. Generally, the determination is based on multiple high-quality studies.	Multiple, high-quality studies Important uncertainties remain
<b>Suggestive of, but not sufficient, to infer a causal relationship</b>	Evidence is suggestive of a causal relationship with relevant pollutant exposures but is limited, and chance, confounding and other biases cannot be ruled out. For example, (1) when the body of evidence is relatively small, at least one high-quality epidemiologic study shows an association with a given health outcome and/or at least one high-quality toxicological study shows effects relevant to humans in animal species; or (2) when the body of evidence is relatively large, evidence from studies of varying quality is generally supportive but not entirely consistent, and there may be coherence across lines of evidence (e.g., animal studies or mode of action information) to support the determination.	Evidence is suggestive but limited
<b>Inadequate to infer a causal relationship</b>	Evidence is inadequate to determine that a causal relationship exists with relevant pollutant exposures. The available studies are of insufficient quantity, quality, consistency, or statistical power to permit a conclusion regarding the presence or absence of an effect.	Evidence is of insufficient quantity, quality, consistency, or statistical power
<b>Not likely to be a causal relationship</b>	Evidence indicates there is no causal relationship with relevant pollutant exposures. Several adequate studies, covering the full range of levels of exposure that human beings are known to encounter and considering at-risk populations and lifestyles, are mutually consistent in not showing an effect at any level of exposure.	Multiple studies show no effect across exposure concentrations

# Comparison of PM Size Fractions

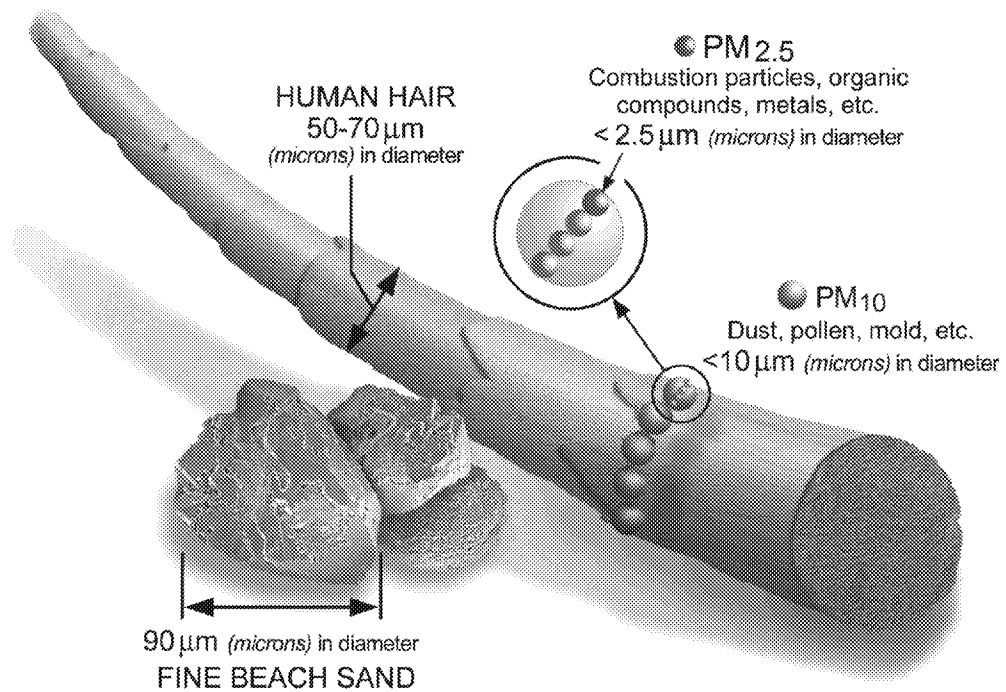
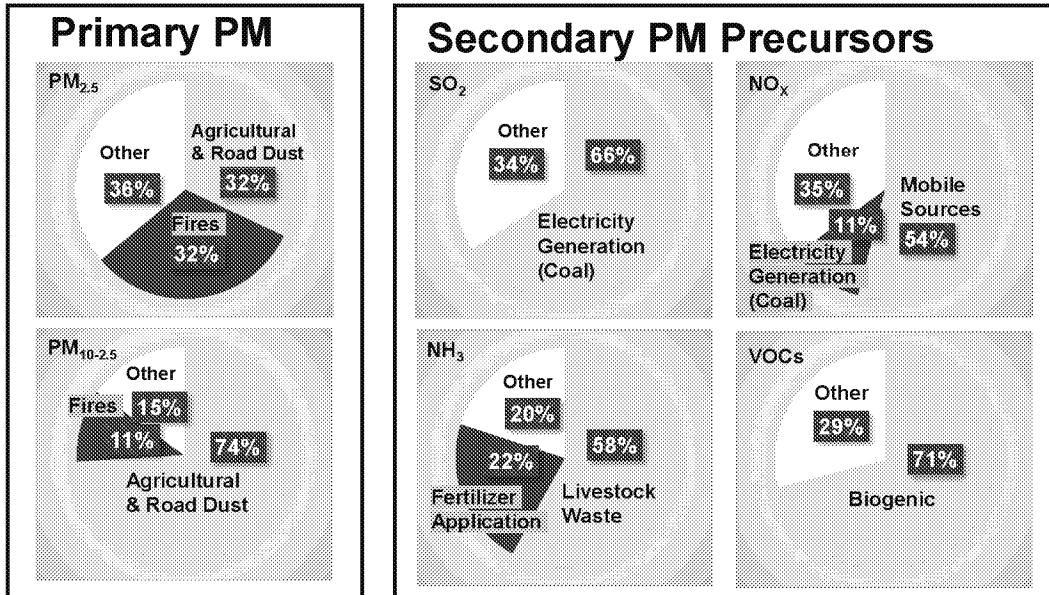


Image courtesy of the U.S. EPA

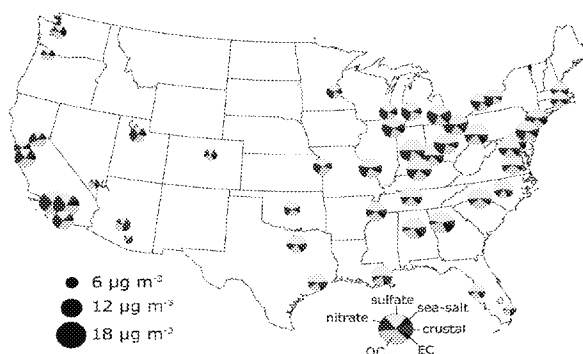
## PM and Precursor Sources (Chapter 2)



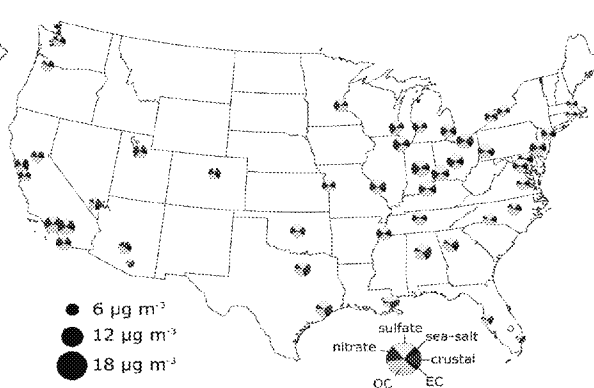
- Each precursor has distinctive source or source mixture
- SO<sub>2</sub> emissions decreased from 13.9 million metric tons in 2006 to 4.8 million metric tons in 2014



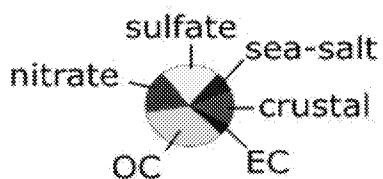
# PM<sub>2.5</sub> Component Concentrations and Trends (Chapter 2)



**Figure 2-25. 2003 - 2005**



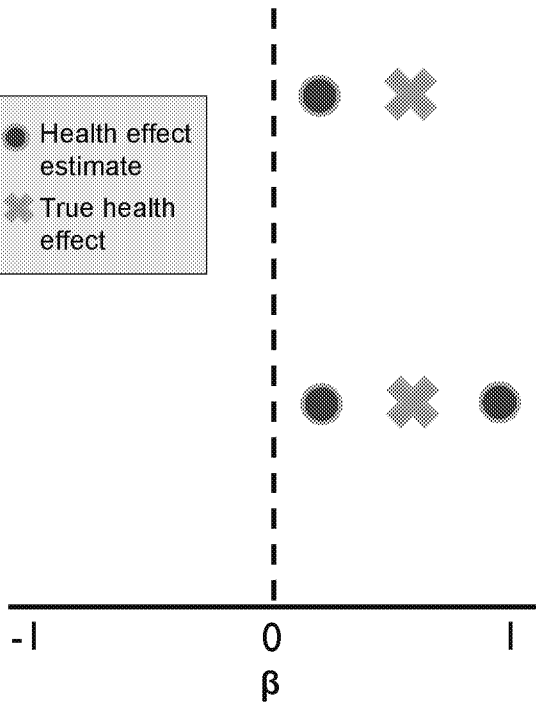
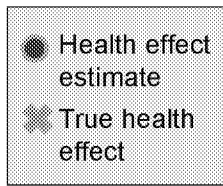
**Figure 2-26. 2013 - 2015**



40

- 2003 - 2005: As % of total mass, sulfate higher in East; OC in West
- 2013 - 2015: Reduction in sulfate contribution in East; contributions similar to 2003 - 2005 in West
- Overall: Organic carbon has replaced sulfate as the most abundant component of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in many locations, specifically in the eastern U.S.
  - Resulting from ~65% reduction in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Exposure to PM (Chapter 3)



- **Short-term exposure studies:**  
exposure error produces underestimation of health effects

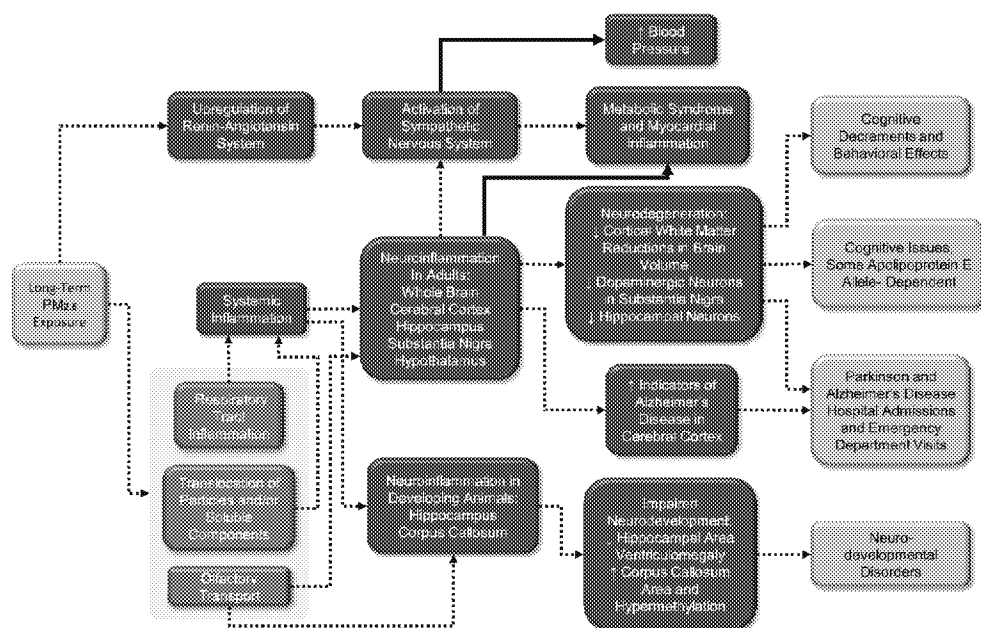
- In this case, we have evidence that the effect exists, and uncertainty is due to the effect being bigger than we estimate

- **Long-term exposure studies:**  
 exposure error produces underestimation or overestimation of health effects

- Overestimation of health effects occurs if the exposure model has low spatial resolution and underestimates exposures

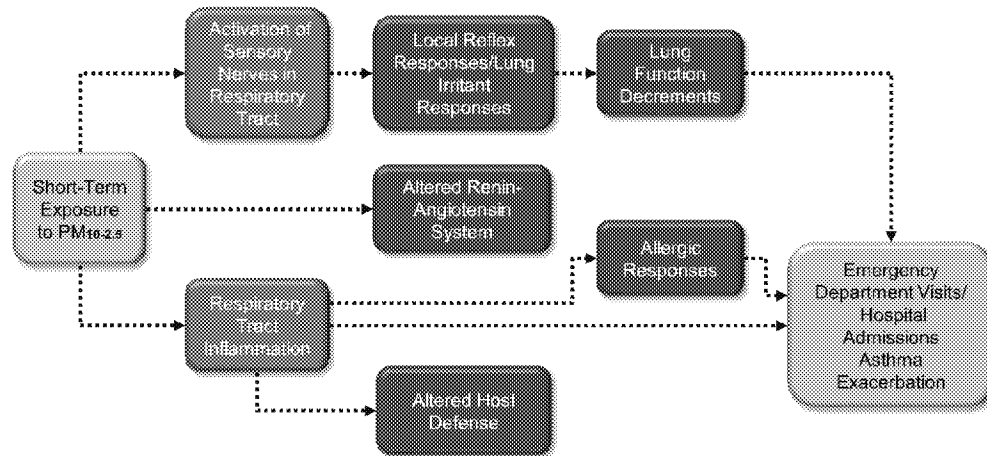
- It is necessary to look at the individual study details to determine quality of the exposure assessment

## Example: Potential Biological Pathways Figure (Likely to be Causal)



Note: The boxes above represent the effects for which there is experimental or epidemiologic evidence, and the dotted arrows indicate a proposed relationship between those effects. Solid arrows denote direct evidence of the relationship as provided, for example, by an inhibitor of the pathway or a genetic knock-out model used in an experimental study. Shading around multiple boxes denotes relationships between groups of upstream and downstream effects. Progression of effects is depicted from left to right and color-coded (gray, exposure; green, initial event; blue, intermediate event; orange, apical event). Here, apical events generally reflect results of epidemiologic studies, which often observe effects at the population level. Epidemiologic evidence may also contribute to upstream boxes. When there are gaps in the evidence, there are complementary gaps in the figure.

## Example: Potential Biological Pathways Figure (Suggestive)



Note: The boxes above represent the effects for which there is experimental or epidemiologic evidence, and the dotted arrows indicate a proposed relationship between those effects. Solid arrows denote direct evidence of the relationship as provided, for example, by an inhibitor of the pathway or a genetic knock-out model used in an experimental study. Shading around multiple boxes denotes relationships between groups of upstream and downstream effects. Progression of effects is depicted from left to right and color-coded (gray, exposure; green, initial event; blue, intermediate event; orange, apical event). Here, apical events generally reflect results of epidemiologic studies, which often observe effects at the population level. Epidemiologic evidence may also contribute to upstream boxes. When there are gaps in the evidence, there are complementary gaps in the figure.

## Health Effects: Causality Determinations

### Chapter 5. Respiratory Effects

Short-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Likely to be Causal	Likely to be Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
Long-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Likely to be Causal	Likely to be Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Inadequate
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate

### Chapter 6. Cardiovascular Effects

Short-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Causal	Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
Long-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Causal	Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate

Red text = new determination or change in causality determination from 2009 PM ISA

## Health Effects: Causality Determinations (cont.)

### Chapter 7. Metabolic Effects

Short-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	---	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	---	Inadequate
UFP	---	Inadequate

Long-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	---	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	---	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	---	Inadequate

### Chapter 8. Nervous System Effects

Short-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Inadequate
UFP	Inadequate	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer

Long-term Exposure		
Size Fraction	2009 PM ISA	Current PM ISA
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	---	Likely to be Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	---	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	---	Likely to be Causal

Red text = new determination or change in causality determination from 2009 PM ISA or new causality determination

## Health Effects: Causality Determinations (cont.)

### Chapter 9. Reproductive and Developmental Effects

#### Male and Female Reproduction and Fertility

<u>Size Fraction</u>	<u>2009 PM ISA</u>	<u>Current PM ISA</u>
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Inadequate
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate

#### Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes

<u>Size Fraction</u>	<u>2009 PM ISA</u>	<u>Current PM ISA</u>
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Inadequate
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate

### Chapter 10. Cancer

<u>Long-term Exposure</u>		
<u>Size Fraction</u>	<u>2009 PM ISA</u>	<u>Current PM ISA</u>
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Likely to be Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate

Red text = new determination or change in causality determination from 2009 PM ISA

## Health Effects: Causality Determinations (cont.)

### Chapter 11. Mortality

Short-term Exposure		
<u>Size Fraction</u>	<u>2009 PM ISA</u>	<u>Current PM ISA</u>
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Causal	Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate
Long-term Exposure		
<u>Size Fraction</u>	<u>2009 PM ISA</u>	<u>Current PM ISA</u>
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Causal	Causal
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub>	Inadequate	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
UFP	Inadequate	Inadequate

Red text = new determination or change in causality determination from 2009 PM ISA



## Example: Evaluation of PM Components Studies

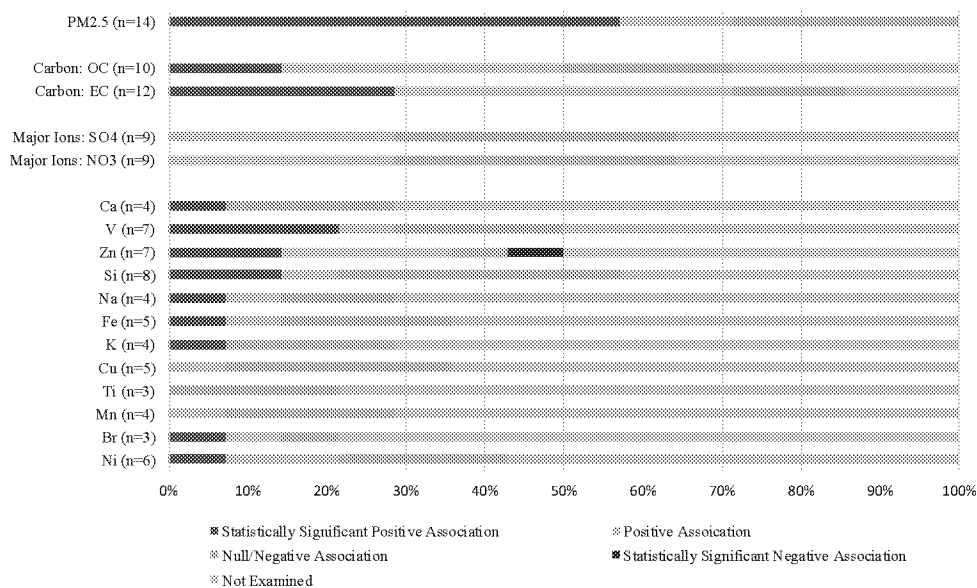
### Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Components Exposure and Cardiovascular Effects: Hospital Admissions and Emergency Department (ED) visits – Heat Map

	Ip et al. (2013)	Lu et al. (2011)	Rommerspach et al. (2013)	Chen et al. (2010)	Xu et al. (2012)	Gambetti et al. (2007)	Zhang et al. (2008)	Peng et al. (2008)	Lavigne et al. (2012)	Reiss et al. (2011)	Ip et al. (2011)	Lu et al. (2010)	Baranowski et al. (2014)	Sambrotus et al. (2014)
	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD	CVD
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	0.5	0.5	0.5	2	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
Carbon														
OC	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	
EC	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Major ions														
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	0.5			0.5	0.5	0.2		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.5			2	0.5	0.2		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	
Metals, Metalloids, Semi-Metals														
Ca						0.2					0.5	0.5	0.5	
Mg	0.5			0.5			0.5				0.5	0.5	0.5	
Zn	0.5			0.5	0.5	0.2					0.5	0.5	0.5	
Na	0.5	0.5		1		0.2		0.5			0.5	0.5	0.5	
Fe	0.5						0.5	0.5			0.5	0.5	0.5	
K						0.2						0.5	0.5	
Cu	0.5			0.5	0.5	0.2						0.5	0.5	
Pb				0.5	0.5							0.5	0.5	
Mn		0.5		0.5								0.5	0.5	
Br							0.5				0.5	0.5	0.5	
NO		0.5		0.5			0.5				0.5	0.5	0.5	

- Numbers represent lags for which associations observed.
- PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass or PM<sub>2.5</sub> components associations categorized by results that are statistically significant positive (dark blue), positive/null (light blue), null/negative (light orange), statistically significant negative (red), or not examined (gray).

## Example: Evaluation of PM Components Studies

### Short-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Components Exposure and Cardiovascular Effects: Hospital Admissions and ED visits – Distribution of Risk Estimates



Bars represent the percent of associations across studies for PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass or PM<sub>2.5</sub> components that are statistically significant positive (dark blue), positive (light blue), null/negative (light orange), statistically significant negative (red), or not examined (gray). n = number of studies that provided an estimate for PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass and individual PM<sub>2.5</sub> components.

# Overview of Current PM NAAQS

Current Standards					Decisions in 2012 Review
Indicator	Averaging Time	Primary/Secondary	Level	Form	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual	Primary	12.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual arithmetic mean, averaged over 3 years	Revised level from 15 to 12 µg/m <sup>3</sup> *
		Secondary	15.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		Retained*
	24-hour	Primary and Secondary	35 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	98th percentile, averaged over 3 years	Retained
PM <sub>10</sub>	24-hour	Primary and Secondary	150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Not to be exceeded more than once per year on average over a 3-year period	Retained

\*EPA eliminated spatial averaging for the annual standards

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